Expansion of Airports in Himachal Pradesh

†1517. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any scheme for expansion of Bhunter, Kangra and Shimla Airports in Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has taken up work relating to extension/resurfacing of runway, construction of an apron/taxiway, terminal building, car park, sub-station, drainage system, two conveyor belts and other miscellaneous work at Kangra Airport at an estimated cost of Rs. 10.34 crores. At Bhuntar Airport, AAI has taken up construction of new terminal building, apron, taxiway, car park at an estimated cost of Rs. 7.47 crores. At Shimla Airport, AAI has taken up the extension of runway and resurfacing the runway at an estimated cost of Rs. 2.49 crores.

Upgradation of Ranchi Airport

1518. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to upgrade and modernise the airport at Ranchi, in view of the city becoming capital of the newly created State of Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to connect Ranchi with Air services to all the major metropolises/capital cities in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) Ranchi Airport is suitable for all weather operation of AB-320 class of aircraft. The facilities and terminal building are adequate for present level of operation. Airports Authority of India (AAI) has plans to expand the terminal building in the Xth Plan depending upon increase in traffic demand.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.